

Indian proposals for disarmament

4092. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister in recent message to the UN Second Special Session on Disarmament proposed a five-point 'concrete' programme of action for disarmament calling for a freeze on nuclear weapons ; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the programme of action proposed ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Prime Minister in her message stated : "I venture to propose the following concrete programme of action : first, the session should negotiate a binding convention on the non-use of nuclear weapons, secondly, as a first step towards the eventual cutting of existing stockpiles, there must be a freeze on nuclear weapons, providing for the total stoppage of any further production of nuclear weapons, combined with a cut-off in the production of fissionable material for weapons purposes; thirdly, there must be immediate suspension of all nuclear-weapon tests, fourthly, towards this objective, disarmament negotiations must once again revert to the task of achieving a treaty on general and complete disarmament within an agreed time-frame, as was discussed between the United States of America and the USSR in the agreed principles and draft treaties of the early 1960s—although the problems involved have become for more complex, the basic approach and the principles then formulated could still provide a basis for meaningful negotiations; and fifthly, the United Nations and its specialized agencies should take the lead in educating the public on the dangers of nuclear war and the harmful effects of the arms race on the world economy, as well as the positive aspects of disarmament and its link with development."

Measure taken against Israel

4093. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state whether a fool proof ban has been imposed on all movements of vessel through Indian ports carrying cargo to and from Israel ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARSIMHA RAO) : The Government of India has no official trade or bilateral shipping relations with Israel. At present there is however no ban on the movement of vessels through Indian ports carrying cargo to and from Israel. The quantum of such cargo is not much.

Metro Railway Calcutta

4094. SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) what will be the total cost for the construction of the Metro Railway in Calcutta project ;

(b) the amount already spent for the said project and the annual allocation funds till the completion of the project ; and

(c) whether in view of the serious dislocation of traffic in Calcutta due to the construction of the railway and the inconvenience felt by the people, there is any proposal to make special efforts for earlier completion of the project ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) The cost for construction of Metro Railway in Calcutta on 1980 price level was Rs. 560 Crores approximately. This is likely to increase further due to escalation.

(b) Amount spent is Rs. 136 Crores approximately. Allocation for 82-83 is Rs. 39.90 Crores and further annual allocation till completion of the project will depend on the resources made available by the Planning Commission during the 6th Plan Period.